

a distribution controller operable to receive said distribution request, control means for receiving a distribution request that is to request the distribution of one of said distributing programs, transmitted from prescribed receiving means, and if the a selected program corresponding to said distribution request has been stored in said distributing distributable program storing meansunit, for reading to read out the above said selected program from said distributing distributable program storing meansand unit;

a receiver operable to transmit a request for distribution of one of said distributable programs; and

distribution means for distributing a distributor operable to distribute said read-out selected program to said receiving means receiver; and

said receiving means for receiving said distributed program.

2. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein: a word is described in said distribution request; and in the case where each title of said plurality of distributing distributable programs has been a title stored in said distributing distributable program storing meansunit, and,

said distribution control means controller compares the a word described in said distribution request with each of said title of the stored titles, and distributing programs stored in said distributing program storing means,

and if a title which corresponds to the word described in said distribution request is found, said distribution control means reads out said distributing selected program having the above title from said distributing distributable program storing meansunit when said title of said selected program corresponds to said word.

3. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein: said distribution request is converted into an e-mail and is transmitted to said distribution control means controller.

4. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein: said distribution request is a free-style format text described in the an arbitrary style of the user of said receiver receiving means.

5. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein: if the said selected program corresponding to said distribution request has been is stored in said distributing distributable program storing meansunit, said distribution control means controller transmits a notice of correspondence showing the finding of the above corresponding program to said receiving means receiver.

6. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 2, wherein;

if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, corresponding to the word described in said distribution request is found, said distribution control meanscontroller transmits a notice of correspondence showing the finding of the above corresponding title to said receiver receiving means.

7. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein; in the case where the, if said selected program corresponding to said distribution request has beenis stored in said distributing distributable program storing meansunit, if receiving a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiving means agrees with the purchase of the above program from said receiving means, said distribution control meanscontroller reads out said selected program from said distributing distributable program storing meansunit when said distribution controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selected program.

8. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 2, wherein; in the case where said title corresponding to the word described in said distribution request, if receiving a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiving means agrees with the purchase of said program having the above title from said receiving means, if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, said distribution control meanscontroller reads out said selected program from said distributing distributable program storing meansunit when said distribution controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selected program.

9. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 5, wherein; said distribution control meanscontroller transmits to said receiver a control command to make cause a video tape recorder that is connected to said receiving meansreceiver to record said distributed selected program, to said receiving means by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

10. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 6, wherein; said distribution control meanscontroller transmits to said receiver a control command to make cause a video tape recorder that is connected to said receiving meansreceiver to record said distributed selected program, to said receiving means by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

11. (Amended) A method of program distribution for distributing, according to a distribution request transmitted from predetermined receiving means, a distributing a selected program described in the above distribution request to said receiving means a receiver, comprising:

the distribution request transmitting step of transmitting said a distribution request describing said selected program from said receiving means receiver to predetermined transmission means a transmitter;

the comparison step of comparing the said selected program that corresponds to said distribution request with a plurality of distributing distributable programs stored in predetermined a distributing distributable program storing means; and unit;

the distribution step, if the program corresponding to said distribution request has been stored in said distributing program storing means, of reading out the abovesaid program selected program from said distributing distributable program storing means unit if said selected program is one of said plurality of distributable programs; and

distributing this said selected program to said receiving means receiver.

12. (Amended) The method of program distribution distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein: a word is described in said distribution request;

in the case where each title of said plurality of distributing distributable programs has been a title stored in said distributing distributable program storing means, the unit and said comparison step compares the a word described in said distribution request with each title of the said distributing programs stored titles, and in said distributing program storing means; and in said distribution step, if a title corresponding to the word described in said distribution request is found in said titles, said distributing step reads out said selected distributing program having the above title is read out from said distributing distributable program storing means unit and distributed distributes said selected program to said receiving means receiver when said title of said selected program corresponds to said word.

13. (Amended) The method of program distribution distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein; said distribution request is converted into an e-mail and transmitted to said transmission means transmitter.

14. (Amended) The method of program distribution distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein; said distribution request is a free-style format text described in the an arbitrary style of the user of said receiving means receiver.

15. (Amended) The method of ~~program distribution~~distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein; ~~in the case where the, if said selected program corresponding to said distribution request has been~~ is stored in said ~~distributing~~distributable program storing ~~means~~unit, said ~~distribution~~distributing step further transmits a notice of correspondence that there ~~is~~ is said ~~distributing~~distributable program being the ~~above~~ program to said ~~receiving means~~receiver.

16. (Amended) The method of ~~program distribution~~distributing a selected program according to claim 12, wherein; ~~if a~~ said ~~title of said selected program corresponds to said word~~ described in said distribution request is found in said titles, said ~~distribution~~distributing step further transmits a notice of correspondence showing the finding of the above corresponding title to said receiver.

17. (Amended) The method of ~~program distribution~~distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein; ~~in the case where the, if said selected program corresponding to said distribution request has been~~ is stored in said ~~distributing~~distributable program storing ~~means~~unit, ~~if receiving a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiving means agrees with the purchase of the above program from said receiving means~~, said ~~distribution~~reading step reads out said selected program from said ~~distributing~~distributable program storing ~~means~~unit and said ~~distributing~~step distributes this said selected program to ~~said receiving means~~receiver when a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees with the purchase of said selected program is received from said receiver.

18. (Amended) The method of ~~program distribution~~distributing a selected program according to claim 12, wherein; ~~in the case where said title corresponding to the word described in said distribution request is found, if receiving a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiving means agrees the purchase of said program having the above title from said receiving means, if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word~~, said ~~distribution~~reading step reads out said selected program from said ~~distributing~~distributable program storing ~~means~~unit and said ~~distributing~~step distributes this said selected program to ~~said receiving means~~receiver when a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees with the purchase of said selected program is received from said receiver.

19. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 15, wherein; said distribution distributing step transmits

further comprises transmitting to said receiver a control command to make cause a video tape recorder that is connected to said receiving means receiver to record said distributed selected program, to said receiving means by adding said control command to said notice of correspondence.

20. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program distribution according to claim 16, wherein, said distribution distributing step transmits further comprises transmitting to said receiver a control command to make cause a video tape recorder that is connected to said receiving means receiver to record said selected distributed program, to said receiving means by adding said control command to said notice of correspondence.

21. (Amended) A transmitter for distributing, according to a distribution request transmitted from predetermined receiving means, a distributing selected program described in the above a distribution request transmitted from a receiver, comprising:

a distributing distributable program storing means for storing unit operable to store a plurality of said distributing distributable programs;

a distribution control means, controller operable to read out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit if the said selected program that corresponds to said distribution request corresponds to a word stored in said distributing distributable program storing means, for reading out the above program from said distributing program storing means unit; and

distribution means for transmitting a distributor operable to distribute said read out distributing selected program.

22. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein: a word is described in said distribution request; in the case where each title of said plurality of distributable distributing programs has been a title stored in said distributing distributable program storing means unit, and, said distribution control means controller compares the a word described in said distribution request with each of said title stored titles and of the distributing programs stored in said distributing program storing means; and if a title that corresponds to the word described in said distribution request is found, said distribution control means reads out said selected distributing program having the above title from said distributing distributable program storing means unit when said title of said selected program corresponds to said word.

23. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein; said distribution request is converted into an e-mail and transmitted to said transmitter receiving said distribution controller.

24. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein; said distribution request is a free-style format text described in the an arbitrary style of the user of said receiving means receiver.

25. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein; if the said selected program corresponding to said distribution request has been is stored in said distributing distributable program storing means unit, said distribution control means controller transmits a notice of correspondence showing the finding of the above program to said receiving means receiver.

26. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 22, wherein; if said title of said selected program corresponds to corresponding to the said word described in said distribution request is found, said distribution control means controller transmits a notice of correspondence showing the finding of the above corresponding program to said receiving means receiver.

27. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein; if the said selected program corresponding to said distribution request has been is stored in said distributing distributable program storing means unit, said distribution control means controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiving means agrees with the purchase of the above program, and reads out said selected program from said distributing distributable program storing means unit when said distributing controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selection program.

28. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 22, wherein; in the case where if said title corresponding to the of said selected program corresponds to said word described in said distribution request is found, if receiving a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiving means agrees with the purchase of said program having the above title from said receiving means, said distribution control means controller reads out said selected program from said distributing distributable program storing means unit when said distributable controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selected program.

29. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 25, wherein; said distribution control means~~controller~~ transmits to said receiver a control command to make cause a video tape recorder that is connected to said receiving means~~receiver~~ to record said distributed selected program, ~~to said receiving means~~ by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

30. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 26, wherein; said distribution control means~~controller~~ transmits to said receiver a control command to make cause a video tape recorder that is connected to said receiving means~~receiver~~ to record said distributed selected program, ~~to said receiving means~~ by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

31. (Amended) A receiver, comprising:

transmission means for transmitting a transmitter operable to transmit a distribution request ~~to request~~for the distribution of a specified distributing distributable program to a predetermined transmitter~~distribution unit~~; and

receiving means for receiving a receiver operable to receive said specified distributable distributing program ~~to be distributed~~ from said transmitter~~predetermined distribution unit~~ according to said distribution request.

32. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein; said distribution request is converted into an e-mail and transmitted to said predetermined transmitter~~distribution unit~~.

33. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein; said distribution request is a free-style format text described in the~~an~~ arbitrary style of the user of said receiving means~~receiver~~.

34. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein; said receiving means~~receives~~receiver is operable to receive from said predetermined distribution unit a notice of correspondence confirming that there ~~is~~ as said specified distributable program corresponding to said distribution request from said transmitter~~is available from said predetermined distribution unit~~.

35. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein; if receiving said notice of correspondence is received, said transmission means~~transmitter~~ transmits to said predetermined distribution unit a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees with the~~to~~ purchase of said specified distributable program the program corresponding to said distribution request to the transmitter.

36. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein, said receiving means receiver receives a control command from said predetermined distribution unit to make cause a video tape recorder that is connected to said receiving means receiver to record said received distributing specified distributable program, from said transmitter.

CLEAN COPY:

1. (Amended) A program distribution system comprising:

a distributable program storing unit operable to store a plurality of distributable programs;

a distribution controller operable to receive said distribution request, and if a selected program corresponding to said distribution request has been stored in said distributable program storing unit, to read out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit;

a receiver operable to transmit a request for distribution of one of said distributable programs; and

a distributor operable to distribute said selected program to said receiver.

2. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of distributable programs has a title stored in said distributable program storing unit, and

said distribution controller compares a word described in said distribution request with each of said stored titles, and

reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit when said title of said selected program corresponds to said word.

3. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein said distribution request is converted into an e-mail and is transmitted to said distribution controller.

4. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein said distribution request is a free-style format text described in an arbitrary style of the user of said receiver.

5. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein if said selected program is stored in said distributable program storing unit, said distribution controller transmits a notice of correspondence to said receiver.

6. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 2, wherein if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, said distribution controller transmits a notice of correspondence to said receiver.

7. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 1, wherein, if said selected program is stored in said distributable program storing unit, said distribution controller reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit when said distribution controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selected program.

8. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 2, wherein if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, said distribution controller reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit when said distribution controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selected program.

9. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 5, wherein said distribution controller transmits to said receiver a control command to cause a video tape recorder connected to said receiver to record said selected program by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

10. (Amended) The program distribution system according to claim 6, wherein said distribution controller transmits to said receiver a control command to cause a video tape recorder connected to said receiver to record said selected program by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

11. (Amended) A method of distributing a selected program to a receiver, comprising:

transmitting a distribution request describing said selected program from said receiver to a transmitter;

comparing said selected program with a plurality of distributable programs stored in a distributable program storing unit;

reading out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit if said selected program is one of said plurality of distributable programs; and

distributing said selected program to said receiver.

12. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein each of said plurality of distributable programs has a title stored in said distributable program storing unit and said comparison step compares a word described in

said distribution request with each of said stored titles, and said distributing step reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit and distributes said selected program to said receiver when said title of said selected program corresponds to said word.

13. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein said distribution request is converted into an e-mail and transmitted to said transmitter.

14. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein said distribution request is a free-style format text described in an arbitrary style of the user of said receiver.

15. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein, if said selected program is stored in said distributable program storing unit, said distributing step further transmits a notice of correspondence to said receiver.

16. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 12, wherein, if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, said distributing step further transmits a notice of correspondence to said receiver.

17. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 11, wherein if said selected program is stored in said distributable program storing unit, said reading step reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit and said distributing step distributes said selected program to said receiver when a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees with the purchase of said selected program is received from said receiver.

18. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 12, wherein, if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, said reading step reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit and said distributing step distributes said selected program to said receiver when a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees with the purchase of said selected program is received from said receiver.

19. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 15, wherein said distributing step further comprises transmitting to said receiver a control command to cause a video tape recorder connected to said receiver to record said selected program by adding said control command to said notice of correspondence.

20. (Amended) The method of distributing a selected program according to claim 16, wherein said distributing step further comprises transmitting to said receiver a control command to cause a video tape recorder connected to said receiver to record said selected program by adding said control command to said notice of correspondence.

21. (Amended) A transmitter for distributing a selected program described in a distribution request transmitted from a receiver, comprising:

a distributable program storing unit operable to store a plurality of distributable programs;

a distribution controller operable to read out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit if said selected program corresponds to a word stored in said distributable program storing unit; and

a distributor operable to distribute said selected program.

22. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein each of said plurality of distributable programs has a title stored in said distributable program storing unit, and said distribution controller compares a word described in said distribution request with each of said stored titles and reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit when said title of said selected program corresponds to said word.

23. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein said distribution request is converted into an e-mail receiving said distribution controller.

24. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein said distribution request is a free-style format text described in an arbitrary style of the user of said receiver.

25. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein if said selected program is stored in said distributable program storing unit, said distribution controller transmits a notice of correspondence to said receiver.

26. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 22, wherein if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, said distribution controller transmits a notice of correspondence to said receiver.

27. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 21, wherein, if said selected program corresponding to said distribution request is stored in said distributable program storing unit said distribution controller reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit when said distributing controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selection program.

28. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 22, wherein if said title of said selected program corresponds to said word, said distribution controller reads out said selected program from said distributable program storing unit when said distributable controller receives a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said selected program.

29. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 25, wherein said distribution controller transmits to said receiver a control command to cause a video tape recorder connected to said receiver to record said selected program by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

30. (Amended) The transmitter according to claim 26, wherein said distribution controller transmits to said receiver a control command to cause a video tape recorder connected to said receiver to record said selected program by attaching said control command to said notice of correspondence.

 31. (Amended) A receiver, comprising:

a transmitter operable to transmit a request for the distribution of a specified distributable program to a predetermined distribution unit; and

a receiver operable to receive said specified distributable program from said predetermined distribution unit according to said distribution request.

32. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein said distribution request is converted into an e-mail and transmitted to said predetermined distribution unit.

33. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein said distribution request is a free-style format text described in an arbitrary style of the user of said receiver.

34. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein said receiver is operable to receive from said predetermined distribution unit a notice of correspondence confirming that said specified distributable program is available from said predetermined distribution unit.

35. (Amended) The receiver according to claim 31, wherein, if said notice of correspondence is received, said transmitter transmits to said predetermined distribution unit a notice of confirmation that the user of said receiver agrees to purchase said specified distributable program.